

Bulova Byline

The Monthly Newsletter from Chairman Sharon Bulova

January 2014



[Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova](#)

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Tell me what you think!

Do you have questions, concerns, or ideas for the County? Contact my office now!

**703.324.2321 TTY
711**

chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov

Greetings,

As my staff and I prepare this issue of the Byline, a new phrase has been added to our Northern Virginia vocabulary - "Polar Vortex."

According to Frank Giannasca, senior meteorologist with The Weather Channel, "*A polar vortex is basically a great swirling pool of extremely cold air located tens of thousands of feet in the atmosphere. Basically an arctic cyclone, it ordinarily spins counter clockwise around the north and south poles.*" According to Mr. Giannasca, this weather event is catching everyone's attention because it has dipped southward into the United States, affecting "*as many as 140 million Americans...*"



Including Fairfax County.

This is not the first time this has happened, but it is the first time a title has been assigned to the frigid phenomena we are experiencing. Extremely cold weather is not something to be taken lightly. The Scandinavian arctic explorer Roald Amundsen is attributed a quote which states "*There is no such thing as bad weather, only inappropriate clothing.*" While I'm not sure I agree that there is no such thing as "bad weather," I do agree with the clothing part.

Inside this issue of the Byline is information about staying warm and safe during cold weather. Fairfax County works with our faith communities to shelter homeless individuals during



cold winter nights. During the daytime, individuals without shelter or heat are urged to keep warm in public places such as recreation centers and libraries. Rule number one, if you notice someone who appears to be at risk during cold weather, call the police non-emergency number at (703-691-2131). If directly addressing those who are homeless, call the [Coordinated Services Planning](#) (CSP) Hotline for coordinated help (703-222-0880) or have them go to the nearest shelter directly. When temperatures are below freezing, [shelters in Fairfax County](#) operate on a no-turnaway policy

2014 is already shaping up to be a busy year. The following are just some of things that are on my radar screen for the year ahead:

- The [Silver Line](#), Phase 1, will open for passenger service through Tysons to Wiehle Avenue in Reston. Five new Metro stations will serve the northern part of Fairfax County.
- Construction for Phase 2, extending Metrorail from Wiehle Avenue to Reston Town Center, Route 28, Herndon, Dulles Airport and to the Ashburn area of Loudoun County will begin.
- Construction associated with [rezonings in Tysons](#), will take place throughout 2014. "Pop-up" activities and uses will provide vibrancy to Tysons while permanent uses are beginning to fill in.
- The newly redeveloped [Springfield Town Center](#) in the old Springfield Mall area will open in fall of 2014.
- A new state administration will begin as Governor Terry McAuliffe is sworn in as the 72nd Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Fairfax County has asked the General Assembly to prioritize Medicaid expansion and state funding for K through 12th grade education when they meet this winter.
- During 2014, Fairfax County and the [Northern Virginia Transportation Authority \(NVTa\)](#) will be advancing transportation priorities in Northern Virginia, putting new state transportation funding to work in order to address congestion and traffic safety.
- On Monday evening, June 9th, my office will be hosting our newest installment - *Evolution of the Workplace* -

in my multi-year ***Evolution*** series. A panel of experts will trace the trends and expectations of workers in Fairfax County, beginning when Fairfax was one of the largest producers of dairy products in the Commonwealth, through our decades as a "bedroom community" to Washington D.C., to the modern "work/life" balance younger workers look for. I think the program will be a lot of fun and I hope you will be able to join me, either in person or by watching online or on Cable Channel 16.

- Back by popular demand will be our second season of [Evenings on the Ellipse](#) concerts in the Government Center's "back yard." Concerts and wine tastings are free thanks to our corporate sponsors. I'm looking forward to balmy nights and great music already!!

Lastly, my [State of the County Address](#) will debut at 7:30 p.m. on January 15th. The program will air on Channel 16 and will be available to watch online on [my website](#) starting January 16th.

The address will take place after my annual [Chairman's New Year Reception](#) (4:30 to 6:30 p.m.) at the Government Center. The Chairman's Reception is my opportunity to say thank you to the many County employees, volunteers and active neighbors who help make Fairfax County the exceptional place it is to live, work and play! All active/engaged constituents are welcome to attend!

Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sharon Bulova". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sharon" and last name "Bulova" clearly distinguishable.

Sharon Bulova

2014 STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS

WHEN

**January 15, 2014
7:30PM – 8:00PM
Airs on Channel 16**

The address will be available On Demand
starting Jan. 16 at:

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman



To request reasonable ADA accommodations, call
(703)324.2321 or TTY 711



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**JOIN FAIRFAX COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CHAIRMAN SHARON
BULOVA AS SHE RECAPS
THE COUNTY'S WORK
OVER THE PAST YEAR AND
PREVIEWS THE YEAR TO
COME**

TOPICS INCLUDE

**Schools/Education
Public Safety
Revitalization
Human Services
Budget Issues
And more...**

FEATURED APPEARANCES

**Dr. Karen Garza, *FCPS
Superintendent*
Chief Edwin Roessler,
Police Chief
Chief Richard Bowers, *Fire
& Rescue Chief*
Walter Clarke, *Southeast
Fairfax Development
Corporation*
Stacey A. Kincaid, *Sheriff***

CONTACT

**Troy Manos, 703.324.2321
Troy.manos@fairfaxcounty.gov**

2014 Chairman's Reception



Chairman Sharon Bulova
Cordially Invites You to the

CHAIRMAN'S NEW YEAR RECEPTION

January 15, 2014
4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Government Center Forum
12000 Government Center Parkway,
Fairfax, Virginia 22035

Refreshments and parking available free of charge.

Contact: Diana Trinh at
Diana.trinh@fairfaxcounty.gov or
call (703)324.2321.

*Donations of canned foods for local charities encouraged

Events Planning Workshop



Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, in partnership with the Workhouse Arts Foundation and Celebrate Fairfax, Inc., is hosting an [Event Planning Workshop: Professional Secrets on Producing Successful Events](#) designed to provide residents with useful information on planning successful events in Fairfax County. This event is open to all county residents and organizations.

The event will take place on Wednesday, January 8th at **5 p.m.** at the *Workhouse Arts Center* in Lorton, 9601 Ox Road, with networking and a tour. From **6-9 p.m.**, registrants will have the opportunity to learn the basics of event planning. Some topics may include:

- Basic Operations Strategy
- How to inexpensively promote your event
- Risk Management, Local Regulations and Permitting
- Crowd Management and Site Design
- Site Selection
- Resources for Event Producers
- Sustaining Event Quality through Leadership Transition

Space is limited and workshop enrollment is first come, first served. Please [register in advance](#) to reserve space.

Winter Weather Preparedness

It's cold out! Below is information on hypothermia, Fairfax County warming centers, and winter weather preparedness.

HYPOTHERMIA

If you see someone unsheltered in this extreme cold weather, call 703-691-2131, TTY 711. Learn more about our [emergency shelters and hypothermia program](#).

Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia. If you must be outside, either for work or leisure, [take precautions](#) such as dressing in layers. Watch this short video for tips, especially for advice on when to go to a hospital:

WARMING CENTERS

If you don't have electricity or heat, consider taking in a movie, strolling through a shopping center or visiting one of the **Fairfax County Warming Centers**: [Libraries](#), [Community Centers](#), [Fairfax County Government Center](#). Check operating hours to ensure the facility is open before arriving.

Residents who know individuals needing special attention are encouraged to take a few minutes to check in on them to ensure their well-being. If residents need immediate, life-saving help, call 9-1-1. For other safety help, call the public safety non-emergency phone number at 703-691-2131.

Residents who need immediate help with utility bills or other urgent human services assistance can call the county's Coordinated Services Planning staff at 703-222-0880. County staff can connect residents with a network of services provided by public, private and community-based organizations, as well as appropriate county government resources.

WINTER PREPAREDNESS

** Sign up for free email and text alerts via our [emergency alert system](#).*

** Bookmark the [emergency information blog](#) and follow Fairfax County on Facebook and Twitter.*



If possible, avoid traveling in hazardous weather. By staying off roadways during snow, freezing rain or sleet, you'll be safer and give more room to snowplows clearing the streets. Public safety officials will also have less traffic to navigate during bad weather.

For snow removal information: www.virginiadot.org/travel/snow.asp.

To see the status of plowing in your neighborhood: novasnowplowing.virginia.gov

For real-time traffic updates and road conditions: Visit www.511virginia.org, download the 511smartphone app, or follow @511northernva on Twitter.

To report unplowed or hazardous conditions: Email novainfo@vdot.virginia.gov or call 1-800-FOR-ROAD (1-800-367-7623).

For general VDOT info: Follow VDOT at www.facebook.com/VirginiaDOT, on Twitter @VDOT, or visit www.VirginiaDOT.org.

Residential Studio Units (RSUs) Update



On July 30, 2013, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors authorized a public hearing on a proposed zoning ordinance amendment regarding Residential Studios (RSUs)-small and affordable efficiency style rental apartments primarily designed for seniors, students, persons who are low income, or those who simply decide they don't need much extra living space. The amendment would permit RSU use in various residential, commercial, and industrial districts by special exception.

The Fairfax County Planning Commission has convened a Residential Studio Units (RSUs) committee to provide an engagement process to address and resolve questions or concerns associated with the Residential Studios Zoning Ordinance Amendment.

While there is support for the RSU concept overall, there is also a deep-seated opposition to allowing them in lower density residential districts, or single family detached neighborhoods. **The Planning Commission's Residential Studio Committee, with the support of a recent Board motion made by Supervisor Gross and me, voted to direct County Staff to draft a revised Zoning Ordinance Amendment that removes the location of RSUs from the lower R-Districts.** Staff was also instructed to prohibit the conversion of attached and detached single family dwelling units to RSUs within the new draft ordinance. In addition, the Committee and staff will also continue to provide information regarding various issues that have been raised associated with the amendment.

The Planning Commission will continue to solicit feedback and suggestions regarding the zoning ordinance, and in the end make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. **All Planning Commission Residential Studios committee meetings will continue to be open to the public and held at 7pm on:**

- 1/22 Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 2-3
- 2/11 Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 4-5
- 3/3 Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 4-5
- 3/26 Fairfax County Government Center, Shared Conference Room 120C

For more information on the Planning Commission Residential Studios Committee, please visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning/rsu/rus.htm.

Transportation Dialogue Wrap Up

I want to thank everyone who participated in the [Countywide Dialogue on Transportation](#) public meetings or who took the survey this fall.

Informed by the comments and suggestions we received, the Board of Supervisors will decide which beneficial but unfunded transportation projects should be prioritized. The adopted list,

combined with existing plans, will create a six year program directing how an estimated \$1.4 billion in local, state and federal funding that comes to the County should be allocated. County staff will combine these different funding sources to meet the community's transportation goals as efficiently as possible.

As anyone who lives or who travels around here knows, we are faced with significant transportation challenges throughout Northern Virginia and the D.C. Metro Region. Even with the historic new revenue provided by the 2013 Virginia General Assembly, the magnitude of the needs we have are such that there will be some good projects that do not make it into this first six year cycle. Nonetheless, the projects that we are able to fund will make meaningful improvements to our transportation network and they represent an important step toward re-inventing our civic infrastructure.

The project list for the Board's consideration is being finalized now and will be posted on the County's website prior to the meeting on the 28th. Meeting agendas and documents can be found here: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/meetings/>.

Workhouse Arts Center

Try something NEW in the New Year at the Workhouse Arts Center!



The New Year is always a great opportunity for a fresh start to be healthier, happier, more creative, more insightful and inspirational. At the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, you can find many ways to fulfill your New Year's resolutions by enrolling in art classes and workshops. Learn how you can improve your health and lifestyle with our Art of Movement program, which offers classes in yoga, pilates, tai chi, ballroom and more.

If your New Year plans include cooking more meals at home, learn how to jazz up the dinner table with our Culinary Arts courses. You can learn how to create tasty dishes that are gluten free, salt free, heart wise or vegetarian. Make 2014 a more creative year by trying something new or revisiting an old skill. Click [here](#) to check out our online, interactive class catalog and register today!



Art of Movement Program at the Workhouse